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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/576,139	01/02/2007	Jerome B. Zeldis	9516-312-999	5575

20583 7590 02/06/2008

JONES DAY
222 EAST 41ST ST
NEW YORK, NY 10017

EXAMINER	
JEAN-LOUIS, SAMIRA JM	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
1617	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
02/06/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/576,139	ZELDIS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SAMIRA JEAN-LOUIS	4173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 27-75 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☒ Claim(s) 27-75 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____i s/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

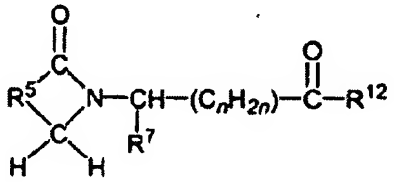
1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

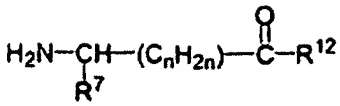
Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 27, 29-31 and 62-75, drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



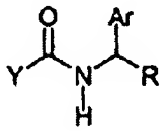
classified in class 514, subclass 165.

II. Claims 28 and 62-75, drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



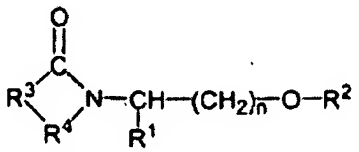
classified in class 514, subclass 165.

III. Claims 32-34 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



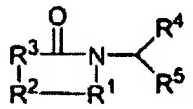
classified in class 514, subclass 165.

IV. Claims 35-36 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



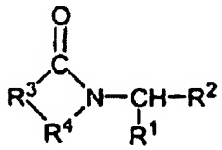
classified in class 514, subclass 165.

V. Claims 37-38 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514, subclass 165.

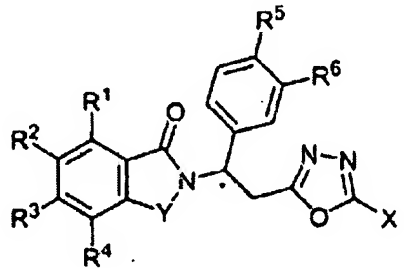
VI. Claims 39-40 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514; subclass 165.

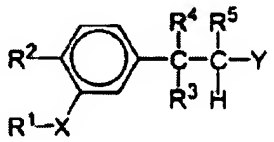
VII. Claims 41-43 and 62-75 , drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a

therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514, subclass 165.

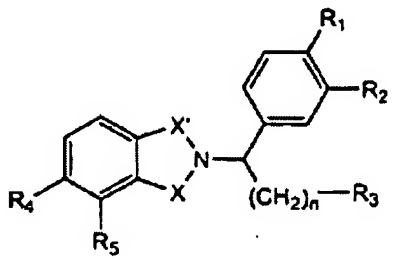
VIII. Claims 44-48 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514, subclass 165.

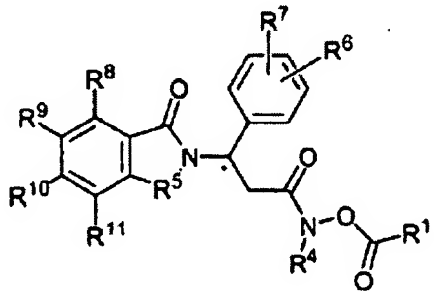
IX. Claims 49-53, 59, and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a

pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514, subclass 165.

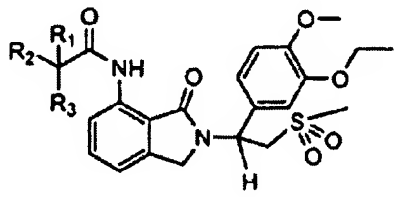
X. Claims 54-55, and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514, subclass 165.

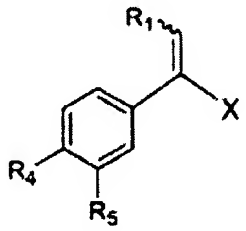
XI. Claims 56, 59, and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a

pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514, subclass 165.

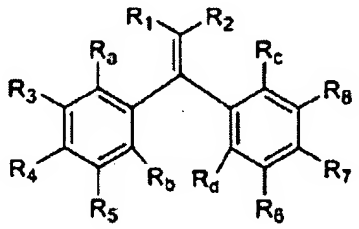
XII. Claims 57 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,



classified in class 514, subclass 165.

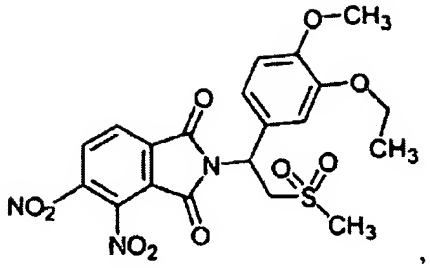
XIII. Claims 56, 59, and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a

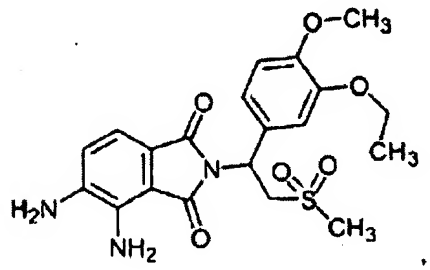
pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,

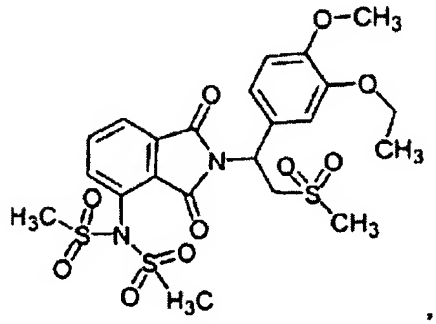


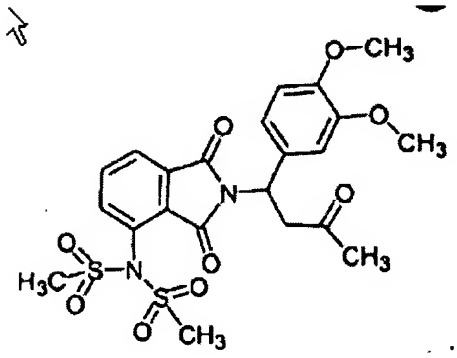
classified in class 514, subclass 165.

XIV. Claims 60 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is of the formula,









classified in class 514, subclass 165.

XV. Claims 61 and 62-75, drawn to drawn to a method of treating pain, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a selective cytokine inhibitory drug, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or stereoisomer thereof, wherein said selective cytokine inhibitory drug is selected from the group consisted of the following

Further examples include, but are not limited to: 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-4,5-dinitroisoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-4,5-diaminoisoindoline-1,3-dione; 7-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-3-pyrrolino[3,4-e]benzimidazole-6,8-dione; 7-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]hydro-3-pyrrolino[3,4-e]benzimidazole-2,6,8-trione; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-3-pyrrolino[3,4-f]quinoxaline-1,3-dione; Cyclopropyl-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-1,3-d ioxoisoindolin-4-yl}carboxamide; 2-Chloro-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; 2-Amino-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; 2-N,N-Dimethylamino-N-{2-[-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}-2,2,2-trifluoroacetamide; N-{2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}methoxycarboxamide; 4-[1-Aza-2-(dimethylamino)vinyl]-2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]isoindoline-1,3-dione; 4-[1-Aza-2-(dimethylamino)prop-1-enyl]-2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]isoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-4-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)isoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-4-pyrrolylisoindoline-1,3-dione; 4-(Aminomethyl)-2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-isoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylsulfonylethyl]-4-(pyrrolylmethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione; N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1R-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1R-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1S-(3-Ethoxy-4-

methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1S-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; 4-Amino-2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxybutylisoindoline-1,3-dione; 4-Amino-2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]isoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-4-pyrrolylisoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-Chloro-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindol-4-yl}acetamide; 2-(Dimethylamino)-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; 4-Amino-2-[1R-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]isoindoline-1,3-dione; 4-Amino-2-[1R-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]isoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1R-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-4-pyrrolylisoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-(Dimethylamino)-N-{2-[1R-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; Cyclopentyl-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}carboxamide; 3-(Dimethylamino)-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}propanamide; 2-(Dimethylamino)-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}propanamide; N-{2-[(1R)-1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}-2-(dimethylamino)acetamide; N-{2-[(1S)-1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}-2-(dimethylamino)acetamide; 4-{3-[(Dimethylamino)methyl]pyrrolyl}-2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]isoindoline-1,3-dione; Cyclopropyl-N-{2-[(1S)-1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}carboxamide; 2-[1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-4-pyrrolylisoindoline-1,3-dione; N-{2-[1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}-2-(dimethylamino)acetamide; Cyclopropyl-N-{2-[1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}carboxamide; Cyclopropyl-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-3-oxoisoindolin-4-yl}carboxamide; 2-(Dimethylamino)-N-{2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-3-oxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; Cyclopropyl-N-{2-[(1S)-1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-3-oxoisoindolin-4-yl}carboxamide; Cyclopropyl-N-{2-[(1R)-1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-3-oxoisoindolin-4-yl}carboxamide; (3R)-3-[7-(Acetylamino)-1-oxoisoindolin-2-yl]-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-N,N-dimethylpropanamide; (3R)-3-[7-(Cyclopropylcarbonylamino)-1-oxoisoindolin-2-yl]-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-N,N-dimethylpropanamide; 3-{4-[2-(Dimethylamino)acetylamino]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl}-3-

(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-N,N-dimethylpropanamide; (3R)-3-[7-(2-Chloroacetylamino)-1-oxoisoindolin-2-yl]-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxy-phenyl)-N,N-dimethylpropanamide; (3R)-3-{4-[2-(dimethylamino)acetylamino]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl}-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-N,N-dimethylpropanamide; 3-(1,3-Dioxo-4-pyrrolylisoindolin-2-yl)-3-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-N,N-dimethylpropanamide; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-4-(imidazolyl-methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione; N-({2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}methyl)acetamide; 2-Chloro-N-({2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}methyl)acetamide; 2-(Dimethylamino)-N-({2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}methyl)acetamide; 4-[Bis(methylsulfonyl)amino]-2-[1-(3-ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]isoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-(methylsulfonyl)ethyl]-4-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]isoindoline-1,3-dione; N-{2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxypentyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopentyl]1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; 2-[(1R)-1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]-4-(pyrrolylmethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[(1R)-1-(3-Ethoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-4-(pyrrolylmethyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione; N-{2-[1-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; N-{2-[1-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-1,3-dioxoisoindolin-4-yl}acetamide; 2-[1-(3-Cyclopentyloxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-4-pyrrolylisoindoline-1,3-dione; 2-[1-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-oxobutyl]-4-[bis(methylsulfonyl)amino]isoindoline-1,3-dione; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, and stereoisomers thereof.

classified in class 514, subclass 165.

Inventions I–XV are directed to related products. The related inventions are distinct if: (1) the inventions as claimed are either not capable of use together or can have a materially different design, mode of operation, function, or effect; (2) the inventions do not overlap in scope, i.e., are mutually exclusive; and (3) the inventions as claimed are not obvious variants. See MPEP § 806.05(j). In the instant case, the

inventions as claimed possess materially different designs. For example, the invention of group I possesses two carbonyl groups in its backbone which would result in contrastingly different physical properties due to the polarity of the carbonyl groups. The invention of group II, on the other hand, mainly contains hydrocarbons group and would therefore possess a different boiling point than invention I. Furthermore, the inventions as claimed do not encompass overlapping subject matter and there is nothing of record to show them to be obvious variants.

Consequently, due to the reasons listed above, these inventions are distinct and mutually exclusive and capable of supporting distinct patents. Moreover, a search required for Group I is not required for Group II-XV. Accordingly, a search for all groups would pose an undue burden on the Office (see MPEP § 808.02).

Species Election

In addition, this application contains claims that are directed to more than one species of the generic inventions. The claims as recited encompass a myriad of species that are contrastingly different in structure and in physical/chemical properties. Thus, once applicant has selected a specific group to be examined, applicant will need to further elect the specific species associated with the chosen invention. Moreover, this species election is required for **all groups** listed above.

Thus, applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-75 are generic.

For all groups listed above:

Specifically, applicant is required to elect **a particular compound** to be used with the chosen invention. Applicant is further cautioned that both a compound name (if disclosed in the instant application) **and** a corresponding structure (if disclosed in the instant application).

Applicant is also required to elect a particular type of pain to be treated with the aforementioned inventions. Alternatively, applicant may elect a particular type of pain listed in claims 66-71.

Furthermore, the recitation of claims 62 indicates that the composition may further entail the step of administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one second active agent (s). Applicant is therefore required to elect the presence or absence of the aforementioned step. If its presence is elected, then applicant is further required to elect the second active agent (s) to be used with the aforementioned step out of claim 65.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species, even though this requirement is traversed. Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims

subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Applicant is also reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

No telephone call was made due to the complexity of the election/restriction.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samira Jean-Louis whose telephone number is 571-270-3503. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-6 PM EST M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan can be reached on 571-272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. J. L. /

02/02/2008

SREENI PADMANABHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER